

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE 2-3NEW YORK DAILY NEWS  
5 November 1985

# KGB agent back in the cold

## NEWS WIRE SERVICES

WASHINGTON—In a move straight out of a John le Carre spy novel, a KGB agent who defected to the United States earlier this year has decided to re-defect back to the Soviet Union, officials said last night.

Vitaly Yurchenko, a high-level Soviet KGB officer who defected to the West in August, has re-defected to the Soviet Union, a spokesman for the Senate Intelligence Committee said.

The spokesman, Dave

Holliday, said he was told by the Central Intelligence Agency about Yurchenko's change of heart. The Soviet Embassy in Washington called a news conference and said Yurchenko would appear there.

### No. 5 man at KGB

CIA representative Patti Volz refused to confirm or deny the report.

Yurchenko, 50, was described as the No. 5 man in the KGB, the Soviet intelligence service, at the time he defected in Rome in early August. According to U.S. government sources, he

served as first secretary of the Soviet embassy in Washington from 1973-80 and oversaw KGB intelligence operations in the United States.

The sources said Yurchenko had been undergoing extensive interrogation by the CIA at an undisclosed location in the United States.

Acting on information he provided, U.S. authorities said they learned that Edward Howard, a former CIA employee, sold intelligence secrets to the Soviet Union. Howard, a 33-year-old economic analyst for the New Mexico Legislature, vanished in

early October while under FBI surveillance.

Howard was last reported to be in Helsinki, Finland.

### 2d spy identified

U.S. government sources said Yurchenko identified another American who had been working for the KGB, but no arrests have yet resulted from that information.

An arrest warrant issued on Sept. 23 in Albuquerque charged Howard with conspiracy to deliver national defense information to aid a foreign government. Howard worked for the CIA from January 1981 to June 1983,

but left the agency after failing a polygraph exam, sources said.

The United States has only acknowledged the defection of Yurchenko officially on one occasion. On Oct. 11, following reports that Yurchenko had defected, the department said: "We can now officially confirm that Vitaly Yurchenko, a senior official of the KGB, has been in the United States for some time. He had previously asked that his presence here not be publicized."

Yurchenko disappeared while on a mission to Rome in late June or early July.